## I claim:

20

25

- 1. A method for treating a melanin related affliction, the method comprising the step of administering a botulinum toxin to the skin of a patient, thereby treating a melanin related affliction.
  - 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the melanin related affliction is a skin pigmentation disorder.
- 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the skin pigmentation disorder is treated by increasing the pigmentation of the skin treated so that the treated skin becomes darker.
- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the skin pigmentation disorder is treated by decreasing the pigmentation of the skin treated so that the treated skin becomes lighter.
  - 5. A method for influencing a skin pigmentation, the method comprising the step of administering a botulinum toxin to the skin of a patient, thereby influencing a skin pigmentation.
  - 6. A method for treating a melanin related affliction, the method comprising the step of administering a botulinum toxin to a skin or hair location of a melanin related affliction of a patient, thereby treating the melanin influenced melanin related affliction by reducing a symptom of the melanin related affliction selected from the group of symptoms consisting of pain, inflammation and vascularization.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the melanin related affliction is treated by reducing a size of the melanin influenced affliction.

- 8. A method for altering hair color, the method comprising the step of administering a botulinum toxin to the hair, thereby altering the hair color.
- 5 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the hair color is altered by increasing the amount of pigmentation in the hair so that the hair becomes darker.
  - 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the hair color is altered by decreasing the amount of pigmentation in the hair so that the hair becomes lighter.

10

20

- 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxin types A, B, C, D, E, F and G.
- 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is a botulinum toxin type A.
  - 13 The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is administered in an amount of between about 1 unit and about 3,000 units.
  - 14. The method of claim 1, wherein the administration is by topical or subcutaneous administration of the botulinum toxin.
- 15. A hair removal method, the method comprising the step of administering a botulinum toxin to the hair of a patient.